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Letter dated 5 December 1994 from the Permanent Representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

You are not unaware that the information media reported a few days ago that the United States of America had transferred 600 kilogrammes of radioactive uranium ready to be used in nuclear-weapons manufacture from Kazakhstan to a nuclear facility in Tennessee, and that American officials stated that the operation had taken place in the greatest secrecy.

In this connection, I wish to state that the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya is deeply concerned at the negative effects this operation could have on the efforts made by the international community to ensure, through appropriate solutions, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. I wish also to state that this operation is an example of manifest contradictions in the policy pursued by the United States of America in the sphere of disarmament. The United States falsely asserts that it is attached to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, whereas this operation bears witness to a frantic desire to stockpile such weapons and control their production, indeed to hold the monopoly in this area.

The contradictions of the United States policy in the fields of disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons is apparent from the political and economic pressure brought to bear by the United States and from the terrorist policy it pursues in respect of countries whose only ambition is to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, whereas the United States, for its part, is seeking to monopolize it.

There is no guarantee that the materials transported to the United States or other materials of the same kind will not be transferred to another location. There is even a real risk that they may show up in Israel, whose links with the United States in respect of cooperation in the sphere of armaments are extremely close and which is not subject to any restriction imposed by the United States with respect to the production and stockpiling of nuclear weapons.

This contradiction in United States policy will negatively affect the efforts made by the international community to put an end to the proliferation of nuclear weapons, in particular the efforts to prolong the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons after 1995, and will compromise the chances of creating zones free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

The Libyan Arab Jamahiriya urges the international community to recognize the negative effects this operation could have and the contradictory nature of United States policy.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 62, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohamed A. AZWAI
Permanent Representative